

Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

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TO USDOC WASHDC

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UNCLAS LONDON 07594

FOR SECRETARY DENT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (DENT)

SUBJECT: AMCHAM UK SPEECH INVITATION

1. FOLLOWING DISCUSSIONS WITH YOU IN WASHINGTON DURING U.S. CHAMBER MEETING IN MAY, AMCHAM UK PRESIDENT WALTER SMITH AND FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT HARRY CRESSMAN CONCLUDED IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE TO COINCIDE OPENING DATE OF LONDON TRADE CENTER WITH ONLY DATES AVAILABLE FOR REGULAR CHAMBER MONTHLY LUNCHEON MEETING AT SAVOY IN OCTOBER. CONSEQUENTLY THEY HAVE OBTAINED A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT TO BE THE OCTOBER 15 LUNCHEON SPEAKER.

2. HOWEVER, SMITH AND CRESSMAN ARE STILL MOST HOPEFUL THAT YOU WILL BE ABLE TO COME TO LONDON IN OCTOBER AS THEY BELIEVE THIS COULD BE EXCELLENT TIMING FOR A TALK BY YOU ON U.S. TRADE ATTITUDES AND POLICIES AND OTHER US-EC RELATIONS. IN ANTICIPATION OF THIS POSSIBILITY THEY HAVE TENTATIVELY RESERVED FACILITIES AT THE DORCHESTER HOTEL FOR A SPECIAL LUNCHEON ON OCTOBER 22, WHICH DATE WOULD TIE IN NICELY WITH THE SCHEDULED OCTOBER 21 OPENING OF THE LONDON TRADE CENTER. THE DORCHESTER HAS NOT YET REQUESTED FINAL CONFIRMATION OF THIS BOOKING BUT THIS CAN BE EXPECTED ANY DAY AS THE CHAMBER'S OPTION ON AN ALTERNATE LOCATION BOOKED AT THE SAME TIME HAS HAD TO BE DROPPED WHEN THE CHAMBER COULD NOT CONFIRM THE DATE.

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3. EMBASSY CONTINUES TO HOPE YOU WILL RETURN TO LONDON TO OPEN TRADE CENTER AND LOOK FORWARD TO BUILDING A USEFUL PROGRAM FOR YOU AROUND THIS EVENT AND THE CHAMBER'S ENGAGEMENT. REGARDING THE LATTER, SINCE IT IS A SPECIAL LUNCHEON EVENT WITHIN A WEEK OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY LUNCH, IT IS BUILT AROUND YOUR ATTENDANCE AND IT WOULD

NOT BE DESIRABLE TO CONSIDER A SUBSTITUTE OF LESSER RANK. CHAMBER OFFICIALS, HOWEVER, ARE CONFIDENT OF A SUCCESSFUL AND WELL ATTENDED MEETING WITH YOU AS SPEAKER.

4. WE WOULD APPRECIATE WORD AS SOON AS POSSIBLE ON YOUR PLANS.

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